

NATIONAL HISTORICAL PUBLICATIONS GRANTS

PURPOSE OF THE APPROPRIATION

Appropriations under this head were available until expended and financed grants to State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations and for allocations to Federal agencies for the purpose of collecting, reproducing, and publishing source material significant to the history of the United States from 1965 to 1971. In 1972, this function was merged into the appropriation "Operating Expenses, National Archives and Records Service".

AUTHORIZATION OF THE PROGRAM

Section 503(f) of the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, 63 Stat. 377, as amended by Public Laws 88-383 of July 28, 1964, 90-461 of August 8, 1968, 92-546 of October 25, 1972, and 93-536 of December 22, 1974, and codified as 44 U.S.C. 2501-2507.

HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

At the urging of the American Historical Association, President Theodore Roosevelt appointed a Committee on the Documentary Historical Publications of the U.S. Government. Their report, published in 1908, recommended the establishment of a permanent commission comparable to those existing in a number of European countries which had responsibility to plan, promote, guide, and assist major publication efforts under exacting standards of scholarship. This objective was given little consideration until 1934 when provision for a National Historical Publications Commission was written into the Act that established the National Archives. Even with this legislation, little progress was made until 1950, when a copy of the first volume of the "Jefferson Papers" was presented to President Harry S. Truman, who directed the Commission to prepare a program to make available "the public and private writings of men whose contributions to our history are now inadequately represented by published works".

The first big step in this direction was taken when the program authorizing grants for the collection, reproduction, and publication of historical documentary source material was enacted as Public Law 88-383 on July 28, 1964. The Administrator of General Services, within the limits of appropriated and donated funds, was authorized to make allocations to Federal agencies, grants to State and local agencies, to colleges and universities, and to other nonprofit organizations and institutions, for collecting, describing, preserving, compiling, and publishing documents which were basic to an understanding and appreciation of our Nation's history.

The National Historical Publications Commission instituted this program and continued to function in an advisory capacity. In 1972 this function was merged as an activity entitled "National Historical Publications and Records Commission" of the "Operating Expenses, NARS" appropriation. Public Law 88-383 of July 28, 1964 as amended by Public Law 90-461 authorized not to exceed \$500,000 for 1965 and for each of nine (9) succeeding years for grants for the purpose of collecting, reproducing, and publishing source material significant to the history of the United States.

Public Law 92-546 of October 25, 1972 authorized \$2,000,000 for the period ending June 30, 1973 and for four (4) succeeding years and Public Law 93-536 of December 22, 1974 authorized \$4,000,000 for the period ending June 30, 1975 and for four (4) succeeding years. At this point in time, the Grant program was already an activity of "Operating Expenses, NARS". (See digest for OE, NARS)

APPROPRIATION LANGUAGE

The initial appropriation made directly to GSA for this program appeared in the 1965 Supplemental Appropriation Act and did not change until 1972, when it merged into the appropriation language for Operating Expenses, NARS.

"For allocation to Federal agencies, and for grants to State and local agencies and nonprofit organizations and institutions, for the collecting, describing, preserving and compiling, and publishing of documentary sources significant to the history of the United States, \$ _____, to remain available until expended."

BUDGETARY HISTORY OF APPROPRIATIONS (In Thousands of Dollars)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Estimate to OMB</u>	<u>President's Allowance</u>	<u>House Bill</u>	<u>Senate Bill</u>	<u>-----Appropriations Enacted-----</u> <u>Amount</u>	<u>P.L.</u>	<u>Date</u>
1965(Supp)	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 350	\$ 350	\$ 350	88-635	10/7/64
1966	500	500	350	350	350	89-128	8/16/65
1967	350	350	350	350	350	89-555	9/6/66
1968	500	500	350	511	350	90-121	11/3/67
1969	500	350	350	350	350	90-550	10/4/68
1970	500	350	350	350	350	92-126	11/26/69
1971	500	350	350	350	350	91-556	12/17/70

(Merged with "Operating Expenses, NARS")

FUNDS AVAILABLE, OBLIGATIONS, AND OUTLAYS
\$(Thousands)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Appropri- ation</u>	<u>Unobligated Balance</u>	<u>Total Availability</u>	<u>Obligations</u>	<u>Outlays</u>
1965	\$ 350	\$ -	\$ 350	\$ 311	\$ 264
1966	350	39	389	332	319
1967	350	57	407	369	399
1968	350	31	381	378	377
1969	350	3	353	327	364
1970	350	26	376	322	281
1971	350	54	404	371	403

(Merged with "Operating Expenses, NARS")

EMPLOYMENT

No employment was directly financed by this appropriation.